

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 201

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to honor and applaud Head Coach Joe Reints and the Lambuth University women's basketball team upon winning the 2007 NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful sports teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, the Lambuth University women's basketball program is one such estimable basketball team that achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2006-2007 season, establishing a record of twenty-seven wins against only nine losses and claiming the 2007 NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship Title; and

WHEREAS, a team with uncommon dedication and motivation, the Lady Eagles triumphed over Cumberland by a score of 63-50 to win the NAIA Crown; and

WHEREAS, led by the outstanding performances of Lambuth's Reggie Maddox, who was named a first team All-American, Meghan Fuqua, and Tara Robinson, the Lambuth women's basketball team upset five higher seeds to win their first national title; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Joe Reints laid the groundwork for this year's championship team by sharing with these young women his substantial knowledge of basketball, his coaching and athletic experience, and his passion both for the sport of basketball and for excellence in every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, in addition to leading the Lady Eagles to the pinnacle of NAIA play, Coach Reints also led his team to two victories over cross-town rivals Union University, a team which was ranked first in the nation in the pre-season polls; on February 22, Lambuth defeated Union by the score of 87-85 in a game which many dubbed a lucky break for Lambuth, a notion which the Lady Eagles summarily dismissed when they again defeated the Lady Bulldogs in the

semifinal round of the tournament by the score of 66-64, firmly cementing Lambuth's reign as the finest NAIA women's basketball team in Jackson, in Tennessee, and in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the women basketball players at Lambuth University epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a championship basketball season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future enterprise; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Lambuth University Lady Eagles for winning the 2007 NAIA Women's Basketball Championship and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the coaches and players of the Lambuth University women's basketball team upon winning the 2007 NAIA Women's Basketball Championship, commend them upon a successful basketball season, and wish them every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.